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## NATIONAL PROBATION OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

of the accuracy and devotion to scientific data for which the Continental criminologists are noted.

Mr. Bailey B. Burritt of the State Charities Aid Association of New York presented a paper (read by Homer Folks of the same association) on "The Public Treatment of Inebriety in New York City." Mr. Burritt's paper showed the futility of treating the drunkard as a petty criminal with repeated short sentences to the workhouse or jail. The direct outcome of Mr. Burritt's study has been the introduction and passage of a bill in the last session of the New York Legislature providing for a Board of Inebriety in New York City, which shall conduct probation work on a large scale and also administer a hospital and an agricultural colony for inebriates. This bill has since been approved by the Mayor of New York City and awaits the signature of the Governor, after which the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of New York City may at its discretion appropriate a fund for the establishment of such a Board of Inebriety.

At the general session on Thursday evening, Miss Katharine Bement Davis, chairman of the section on Law Breakers, departed from her written paper and gave a powerful extemporaneous talk on the necessity of reformatories as a part of a modern penal system. The audience being largely local and there being no reformatory in the state of Missouri the talk was most timely.

The paper of the evening on the "Duty of the Law Maker to the Law Breaker" was a noteworthy contribution by Albert H. Hall of Minnesota. Mr. Hall's program was exhaustive, keen in insight and in a large degree workable. He outlined in detail remedial and preventive legislation, and emphasized particularly the need of reformation in our criminal code and method of criminal procedure.

O. F. L.

**NATIONAL PROBATION OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.**<sup>1</sup>—Since June, 1907, informal meetings of the probation officers in attendance at the annual meeting of the National Conference of Charities and Correction have been held. In Buffalo in 1909 an organization known as the National Probation Officers' Association was formed. It is expected that this organization will meet at the same time and place as the National Conference of Charities and Correction, about which body there is collecting a group of organizations of specialists.

At St. Louis, in June last, the National Probation Officers' Association held one joint meeting with the National Conference on the "Education of Backward, Truant and Delinquent Children;" one joint session with the children's section of the National Conference of Charities and Correction; and five separate sessions.

A considerable number of judges of juvenile courts were in attendance, including Judge DeLacy of Washington, Judge Baker of Boston, Judge Mack of Chicago, Judge Porterfield of Kansas City, Judge Nash of Buffalo, Judge Addams of Cleveland, Judge Jewell of Grand Rapids and Judge Shock of Topeka.

A large number of probation officers representing all sections of the country were present, as was also a number of private citizens interested in probation. The attendance at the separate meetings ranged from fifty to two hundred persons.

The program was unlike that of any other organization meeting in St. Louis in connection with the National Conference of Charities. There were no formal papers whatever. The president of the association, Mr. Homer Folks, who was to have read an opening paper, was unable to arrive until a later session. A pro-

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<sup>1</sup>Furnished by Homer Folks, president of the association.

## NATIONAL PROBATION OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

gram for each meeting had been carefully arranged indicating just what subjects would be considered and several persons had been selected in advance to open the discussion informally.

The subjects considered were as follows:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2:30 P. M.

Symposium on Juvenile Probation.

(A) Methods of Probationary Oversight of Children.

1. Establishing and maintaining proper relations with the child.
2. Establishing and maintaining proper relations with the child's home.
3. Securing the coöperation of school authorities, employers, and other persons and agencies.
4. Methods of keeping informed about the conduct and condition of probationers.
5. Medical examination and oversight.
6. Constructive moral and social influences.
7. Methods of dealing with unsatisfactory conduct and violations of the probationary conditions.
8. Restitution as a factor in reformation.

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 10 A. M.

Symposium on Juvenile Probation—Continued.

(B) Organization of a Staff of Probation Officers.

1. The functions of a chief probation officer.
2. How to determine the number of probation officers needed; salaried and volunteer.
3. Personal assignment versus the district system.
4. The relative number of men and women probation officers required.
5. Oversight of volunteer probation officers.
6. Should preliminary investigations be made by probation officers who also exercise supervision over children, or by special investigators?

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2:30 P. M.

Symposium on Adult Probation.

(A) The Probationary Treatment of Men.

1. Persons most suitable for probationary treatment.
2. Methods of keeping informed about the conduct and condition of probationers.
3. Constructive moral and social influences.
  - (a) In cases of men living at home;
  - (b) In cases of men living away from home.
4. Period of probation.
5. The probationary treatment of men convicted of non-support.
6. The probationary treatment of drunkards.
7. Restitution as a factor in reformation.

(B) The Probationary Treatment of Women.

1. Preliminary investigations in cases of women defendants.
2. When is it advisable to apply probation to women guilty of sexual immorality?
3. Special precautions and efforts needed in supervising women probationers.

## ILLINOIS STATE'S ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 23, 2:30 P. M.

Symposium on The Judge's Relation to Probation Work.

(A) Practice and Procedure in Juvenile Courts.

Discussion opened by Hon. Harvey H. Baker, judge of the Juvenile Court, Boston, Mass.; Hon. George H. Williams, formerly judge of the Juvenile Court, St. Louis, Mo.; Hon. H. S. Hulbert, judge of the Juvenile Court, Detroit, Mich.; Hon. Timothy D. Hurley, editor of the Juvenile Court Record, Chicago, Ill.

(B) The Judge's Part in Probation as a Reformatory Agency.

1. How closely can the judge be expected to keep informed about the conduct from time to time of persons on probation?
2. To what extent can the judge determine the detailed methods of the work of probation officers?
3. Is it practicable for the judge to determine the conditions to be observed by each probationer?
4. How to deal with serious misconduct on the part of probationers.
5. What factors should enter into the determination of the period of probation.

THE ILLINOIS STATE'S ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Illinois State's Attorneys Association was held in Chicago June 1 and 2. Among the addresses of interest were those by Professor Chas. R. Henderson of the University of Chicago, Hon. James M. Sheean of the Chicago bar and Mr. Thomas R. Marshall of the Cook County State's Attorney's office. Professor Henderson criticized the Illinois parole system, saying, "It is a farce—a tragical farce—to send men out of our penal institutions without help, care or a guardian, and then expect them to do what is just and right." "I have no love for the present parole law," the professor continued, "and those who were instrumental in securing its passage did not get out of it what they expected. I am satisfied that the parole system cannot be what it ought to be until the person with the criminal tendency is kept under surveillance for three or four years, with help, care, encouragement and an environment in which he may strive and live. What we ask is a chance for these poor wretches of the slums. Justice does not mean the measuring out of pain. Instead of teaching men that the way of the transgressor is hard, we often make them more desperate."

Mr. Sheean strongly criticized the fee system as a method of compensation for state's attorney's and declared it to be a relic of barbarism. Among other things he said, "The remuneration of a state's attorney now depends upon the severity of the punishment that is meted out to his fellow man. He gets so much for a head and something less when a milder punishment is meted out. It is a base appeal to the basest instincts of the human race, a disgrace to Illinois and an affront to any state's attorney. It places every state's attorney on the same plane with men of the stone age. It makes you headsmen and ought to be wiped off the books without delay. According to this law, your remuneration will be commensurate with the number of scalps that dangle at your belt. It is barbaric, disgraceful and unjust and it remains for the state's attorneys to lead the way toward a reform."

A plea for more simple indictments was made by Mr. Marshall, who declared